



University of Connecticut  
*Office of the Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer*

February 18, 2010

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Peter J. Nicholls  
Provost

Richard D. Gray  
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

**SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2012 UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, SCHOOL OF  
LAW WINTER TERM (INSTITUTIONAL FEE)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Trustees approve a Winter Term for Fiscal Year 2012 for the School of Law. The rate structure proposed for this Winter Term will follow the current methodology used to calculate the per credit charge for the School of Law's June term. Therefore, this per credit fee will be based on the tuition rate per credit in the Fall preceding the Winter Term.

**BACKGROUND:**

Beginning in 2002, the University embraced a new student fee review process. Three categories of fees were established: (1.) Institutional Fees, which require central administrative approval, such as Tuition, Room, Board, Infrastructure Maintenance Fee and self-supporting programs; (2.) Academic Materials Fees, which are for consumables and instructional materials that are specific to a particular course or major; and (3.) Student Fees, which include the General University Fee and student activity and service fees. Senior Management charged permanent committees with promoting a fee structure for the academic and student fees that supports excellence, provides comprehensive procedures, and is uniform without sacrificing efficiency and flexibility.

This Institutional Fee is proposed by the University leadership as the budget for this Winter Term is largely driven by what it takes to run the program. This fee will only be assessed to School of Law students enrolled in this Winter Term. See attached proposal.

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**University of Connecticut  
School of Law  
Winter Term Fee  
Fiscal Year 2011-2012**

**I. Proposed Action**

- A. Description of Fee:** The Law School proposes to offer a Winter Term beginning January 2012. The charge for the Winter Term will be a fee calculated in the same manner as the Law School's current per credit charge for June and July Terms. This calculation is based on the tuition charged to day and evening students. The current June and July charge is \$686 per credit. The actual per credit charge in January 2012 will be dependent on the tuition rate per credit for fall 2011.
- B. Description of Recommended Revision:** The Law School faculty has voted to approve a proposal to create a 3-week Winter Term during the month of January. The courses offered during the Winter Term will provide an opportunity for an intense, concentrated learning experience in which the attention and efforts of students will be focused on a single subject in a way not possible during the existing fall and spring semesters. A Winter Term will permit student exposure both to sophisticated U.S. practitioners and professors from other law schools, here and abroad, who are able to spend a brief period at the Law School. Such experts can seldom remain in residence for a complete semester. The Winter Term will also permit us to simulate the more intense experiences of trials and deal-making, which constitute the life of seasoned attorneys.

The Winter Term promises to make a significant contribution to the educational mission of the Law School. To implement it effectively, we need to achieve an increase in revenue to cover the concomitant costs of fielding such concentrated courses. Our current calendar requires first year students to spend January enrolled in our moot court program, while simultaneously taking another class. Our plan would be to isolate the moot court program in a way most conducive to the sort of learning it is designed to impart. The proposed Winter Term will solve this problem. Charging a fee for the second and third year students enrolled in Winter Term will enable us to pay instructors for the concentrated experience we have in mind.

Implementation of the Winter Term will proceed in stages. Due to the increased cost to students, we need to alert our applicant pool of this change. Because our recruitment season for the incoming 2010 class is largely complete, we plan to phase in the Winter Term with the incoming class of 2011-12. In that year, the first-year law students will take their moot court class as part of the new Winter Term. We plan to hire a full time coordinator for the moot court program as this program has long languished under part time leadership. We also plan to increase the stipends of the many adjunct lawyers who help teach the program as we now pay them far below market.

The plan for the following year, 2012-13, is to expand the Winter Term beyond the moot court program for first year students to include upper-class students. We strongly believe in the educational value of such concentrated study and we are eager to bring in sophisticated expertise from those in the working world and from those who teach at other law schools here and around the world. Existing Law School facilities will be sufficient to support this program and we will use existing faculty resources where we have the relevant expertise to provide effective concentrated learning.

- C. Basis of Requested Revision:** The fee is requested for teaching, administrative, library, and other expenditures in support of the program.
- D. Students Affected:** The total day division J.D. enrollment would be affected by this fee. The Law School admits 140 students each year.
- E. Proposed Date of Implementation:** The proposed date of implementation would be January 2012.

## II. ANALYSIS

### A. Fiscal Need For Fee Revision:

	<u># Credits</u>	<u># Students</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>
Winter Term Revenue	3	\$ 140	\$ 288,120	\$ 299,460
Winter Term Revenue	2	\$ 70	-	\$ 99,820
<b>Total Revenue</b>			<u>\$ 288,120</u>	<u>\$ 399,280</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<u>\$ 288,000</u>	<u>\$ 398,500</u>
<b>Gain</b>			<u>\$ 120</u>	<u>\$ 780</u>

**B. Effect on Other Institutional or Unit Programs if Fee is Disapproved:** Intensive educational experiences such as this are increasingly common at other institutions. If the fee is not approved, the Law School risks a decline in its competitive position with regard to other schools.

### C. Comparative Student Cost:

For a three-credit course:

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Cost</b>
American University – Washington College of Law	\$4509
University of California – Hastings School of Law	\$3252
Harvard University Law School	\$5991
University of South Carolina School of Law	\$2352
University of Washington School of Law	\$1800
<i>University of Connecticut School of Law -- proposed</i>	<i>\$2058</i>

**D. Student Approvals:** This proposal was presented to the Law School faculty by the Educational Policy Committee. The Student Bar Association elects 2 students to serve on the Educational Policy Committee to provide student guidance and input to decisions. Students were also apprised of this fee at an open forum.